Simone Crestani

POETRY OF LIGHT

personal exhibition @ Adele-C showroom

Milano Design Week 2019| press kit

Simone Crestani,

glass artist and craftsman profile

A craftsman even more than an artist, Simone Crestani learned to love glass at an early age, getting to know its delicate language of strength and fragility, patience and incandescence, thanks to his experience at Massimo Lunardon's glassworks; it was here that he honed his approach to the material through the blown lampworking technique and his profound dedication to the craft.

Introspective and selftaught, over time he gathered up his experience and what he had been taught, opening his own workshop after ten years of apprenticeship in order to develop his innovation and expressive research in a personal manner.This led, with great singularity of vision, to his production of artworks and high-design items consisting of table art, lighting and furnishings.

Since 2010 Simone has poured all his creative efforts into Atelier Crestani, drawing inspiration from the wildest and most luxuriant aspects of nature and its imperfect balance, continuously ready to break apart and recompose into new orders of beauty.

An artist and designer as well as a master glass blower, Simone Crestani brings a contemporary reinterpretation to an artisan tradition and an occupation whose most important centre of production has been the area around Venice since ancient times.

His lampwork in borosilicate glass uses an innovative technique, which Simone himself describes as hollow sculpting, that allows him to create large works which nevertheless incorporate the smallest details. By pushing the material to its limits and becoming one with it, the artist continues his very personal expressive search for beauty and the poetics of form, in an infinite ode to nature’s spell, its fragility and wonder.

POETRY OF LIGHT

The artist's personal exhibition at the Adele-C showroom

A comparison of elective affinities. After the invitation to Munich by Ingo Maurer for Munich Creative Business Week 2018, for the upcoming Milano Design Week – being held in the Italian city from 9 to 14 April 2019 – Simone Crestani will once again be involved in a completely unique encounter. This time it is with Adele Cassina, an extraordinary woman, the discreet protagonist of the history of Italian design and charismatic founder of the furniture and accessories brand Adele-C.
This communicative encounter between Adele and Simone will unleash an authentic harmony, human as well as professional, and for the glass artist and craftsman provide the opportunity to show off his creations in the setting of the Adele-C showroom in the Brera district during Milano Design Week.

This is the location for Poetry of Light, the personal exhibition which acts as a mise en scène for Simone's crystalline universe – with its infinite ode to nature's spell, its fragility and wonder – in the evocative location discreetly located inside the courtyard of a palazzo in old Milan.
Poetry of Light. It is a delicate and poetic, yet at the same time strong and bright, crystalline beauty which envelops Simone Crestani's creations. The creative universe of the young glass artist and craftsman draws inspiration from the constantly changing essence of nature, wild and luxuriant, while at the same time delicate and fragile: a fluid element with imperfect balance, continuously ready to break apart and recompose into new orders of beauty. His visionary talent and profound dedication to his work reveal themselves in a world brought to life by flowering cherry trees full of poetry, charming herons, soulful nightingales, refined bonsais and stupefying trees, exuberant bubbles and sprawling octopi, the horns of wild animals and hypnotic serpentine spirals: a crystalline world inspired by nature, in which wonder rules and we are captivated by the artist's creative poetics and expressive talent.

Simone Crestani's personal exhibition during Milano Design Week at the Adele-C showroom in the Brera district represents a precious moment: on the one hand to get to know and admire close-up the artist's rich creative universe, fruit of his incessant expressive research into the poetics of form; on the other, to discover some completely original works from the young master glass artist/craftsman, a series of completely new designs created for the occasion which will be unveiled at the Fuorisalone.

In particular, the collection E-Sumi, a series of light installations – for the table, the wall or else suspended – whose name already reveals its source of inspiration. These new creations of Simone's are, indeed, inspired by Sumi-e, refined paintings from Japanese tradition featuring a sequence of a few, delicate brush strokes of black ink on rice paper: a series of pieces made from brass and parchment, borosilicate glass and LED lights in which the artist's sensibilities reinterpret the mating rituals of the animal world with a poetic gaze.

The communicative encounter between Adele and Simone has also led to another new collection, Rain – made up of vases and small table containers – designed for Adele-C and part of the company's 2019 catalogue. The series reveals an element of absolute originality within Simone's production, given by the use of colour, since the artist is generally measured against the crystalline transparency of his chosen material; the exuberant presence of transparent glass spheres along the edge and upper section of each piece finally reveals the distinctive element which sets the entire collection apart.

Poetry of Light, the personal exhibition of Simone Crestani for Milano Design Week, can be viewed in the Adele-C showroom at Via Marsala 11, Milan from the 9th to the 14th of April; opening hours are 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 to 6 p.m. The inauguration of the exhibition will be held on Thursday 11th April from 7 to 9 p.m., with a special cocktail evening put on by Nardini, the historic distillery from Bassano del Grappa.

Simone Crestani and Adele Cassina

E-Sumi

A series of installations for the table, wall or ceiling: light creations designed as the luminous transposition of Sumi-e, the delicate paintings of the Japanese tradition which, through their few, slender inked brushstrokes, are able to express reality in its purest and most essential form. It is a collection which is composed of unique pieces which immortalise various scenes from the mating rituals of the animal world: surrounded by linear brass frames – containing LED lights whose beam filters through the thick sheets of parchment – the E-Sumi collection portrays expressive nightingales and elegant dragonflies, charming herons, hypnotic, sprawling octopi and graceful butterflies, crystallising their presence into moments of hypnotic beauty.

Year: 2019
Material: hollow sculpted blown borosilicate glass, brass, parchment, LED lights
Dimensions: L 84 x W 10 x H 48 cm | L 44 x W 10 x H 48 cm | L 44 x W 10 x H 85 cm

Rain

Rain is a collection composed of vases and small containers for the table, designed by Simone for Adele-C. Like raindrops gently brushing the surfaces, transparent spheres of glass ripple ethereally through space before sliding onto each item of the collection. Their presence – fragile, luminous and at the same time exuberant –becomes the element which sets this series apart. The colour lends a completely unique dynamism to these objects: blue, green and yellow spread along the surfaces, enriching the sharp clarity and sparkle of the spheres with infinite nuances, as they transform into small, fluctuating universes in which the transparency of the glass and the glimmer of colour emerge in delicate, poetic harmony.

Year: 2019

Material: hollow sculpted blown borosilicate glass

Dimensions: Ø 10 x H 4 cm | Ø 16 x H 7 cm | Ø 11 x H 27 cm

Yozakura

A more essential variant of E-Sumi. A series of small table installations inspired by the eponymous oriental practice of admiring the spectacular panorama of blossoming cherry trees, in all their amazing wonder: not only during the day, but also at night, when the lights which illuminate the blossom bathe them in an even more sublime beauty. This, too, has given life to a series of unique pieces made from satin bronze and borosilicate glass, which reveal to us delicate cherry blossoms, to which the faint glow of a candle provides further, poetic beauty.

Year: *2019*

Material: hollow sculpted blown borosilicate glass, satin brass

Dimensioni: L 41,5 x W 10 x H 30 cm

Alchemica

A collection made up of bottles, wine glasses, cocktail glasses and whiskey glasses, born of an ironic reinterpretation of the characteristic forms of the glassware in a typical chemical laboratory: vials, test tubes, funnels and cylinders are transformed into domestic objects, from which a myriad of bubbles set out, ready to follow each other, twisting into long rows. A playful homage to borosilicate, the glass used by Simone in his work, whose first application was in chemical and pharmaceutical glassware.

Year: 2019

Material: hollow sculpted blown borosilicate glass

Glass Bonsai

Solid trunks with branches growing upwards, seeking out light: even when Simone’s first projects were still confined to his imagination, they had already taken on the form of bonsai trees. This is the natural element which most represents the artist's poetics and the profound dedication to glass which he has nurtured since the very beginning of his career. The bonsai is a concentration of life, strength and energy; a living, never-ending work of art in which nature is continuously evolving, overcoming size barriers to express beauty in its most refined and surprising form.

Year: 2017
Material: hollow sculpted blown borosilicate glass

Serpentine

Serpentine is a collection composed of liqueur bottles, martini glasses and ashtrays. Inspired by the iconography of the snake – symbolic representation of temptation, whose venom possesses, in addition to its evident lethal toxicity, therapeutic and mind-numbing effects – the collection reinterprets reptilian features in their elegant, suave, yet at the same time dangerously enchanting sinuosity, as they were represented in ancient 17th-century prints.

Year: 2018
Material: hollow sculpted blown borosilicate glass
Dimensions: bottle Ø 17 x H 32 cm |
glass Ø 11 x H 17 cm | ashtray Ø 14 x H 14 cm

Rose Candelabra

The base of a candelabra, solid and at the same time transparent, almost seems to be want to be a wood turning, before then changing idea and turning into the tangle of branches, flowers and leaves of a flourishing rose garden: the surprising metamorphosis of an inanimate vegetable object. The artist amazes us once again, bringing the beauty of transience into the quotidian, in an object in which the crystalline elegance of glass is warmed by the delicate colour tones of the rose petals and leaves.

Year: 2015
Material: hollow sculpted blown borosilicate glass
Dimensioni: L 45 x W 45 x H50 cm

Bee Bottle

A sleek glass bottle, elegant in its iconic transparency. Within it emerges a detail to amaze the observer: a small bee portrayed in all its delicate essence, which seems to have just flown out of an Emily Dickinson poem. It is the true protagonist of this work, the only note of colour, represented by the artist in the smallest detail, from its eyes to its stinger: has the bee been captured, or is it the one which has captured our admiration?

Year: 2014

Material: hollow sculpted blown borosilicate glass

Dimensions: Ø 9 x H 29 cm

Trophy Bottles

A collection of bottles, elegant in their minimalism, which reveal an unexpectedly ironic detail: at the top of each is a trophy cap which reproduces the horns of a wild animal – elk, antelope, deer and buffalo – in minute detail, a silent and poetic ode to the inhabitants of the most unspoiled nature.

Yaers: 2015
Material: hollow sculpted blown borosilicate glass
Dimensions: Ø 12 x H 30 cm

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